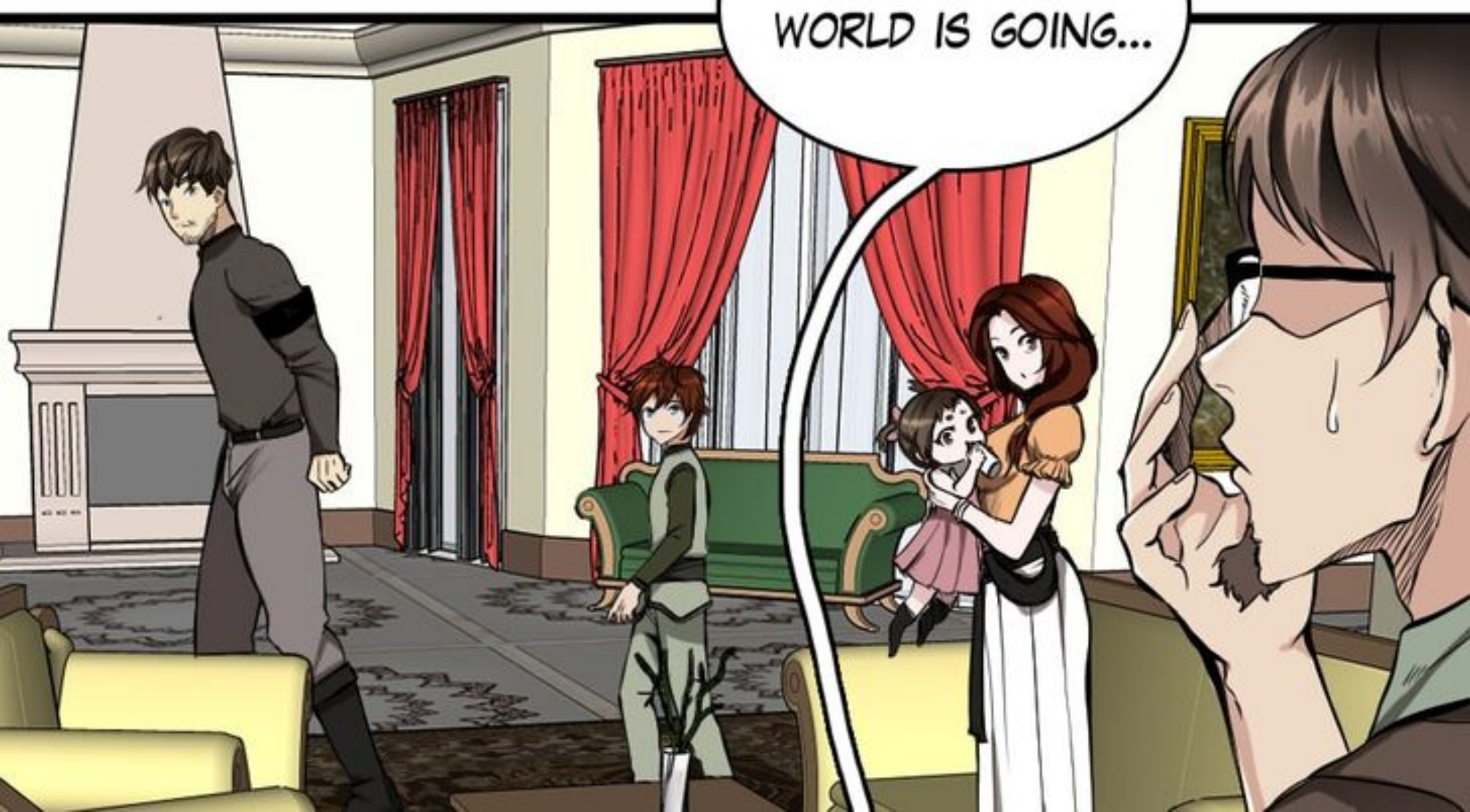
CLACK

CLACK

CLACK

BAM!

REY!
I JUST
HEARD THAT
YOUR SON
IS ALIVE?!


WHAT IN THE WORLD IS GOING...

...ON?

SO THESE ARE THE PEOPLE THAT HAVE BEEN TAKING CARE OF MY FAMILY.

VINCENT, TABITHA, I'D LIKE YOU TO MEET MY SON, ARTHUR. HE'S REALLY BACK, VINCE!

I-I CAN SEE THAT...

ARTHUR, THIS IS VINCENT HELSTEA, WHO RUNS THE HELSTEA AUCTION HOUSE, AND MY OLD FRIEND WHO I NOW WORK FOR. THIS IS HIS HOUSE, SO INTRODUCE YOURSELF BEFORE WE START WRECKING IT.

IT'S A PLEASURE TO MEET YOU, MR. AND MRS. HELSTEA.

I'M SURE
THIS MAY ALL COME AS A
SURPRISE TO YOU BUT I WAS
THE ONE WHO ASKED THEM NOT TO
TELL ANYONE HOW I WAS, SO ALLOW
ME TO APOLOGIZE FOR THE
CONFUSION.

WOW...
ARE YOU
SURE YOU'RE
RELATED
TO YOUR
FATHER?

HEY!

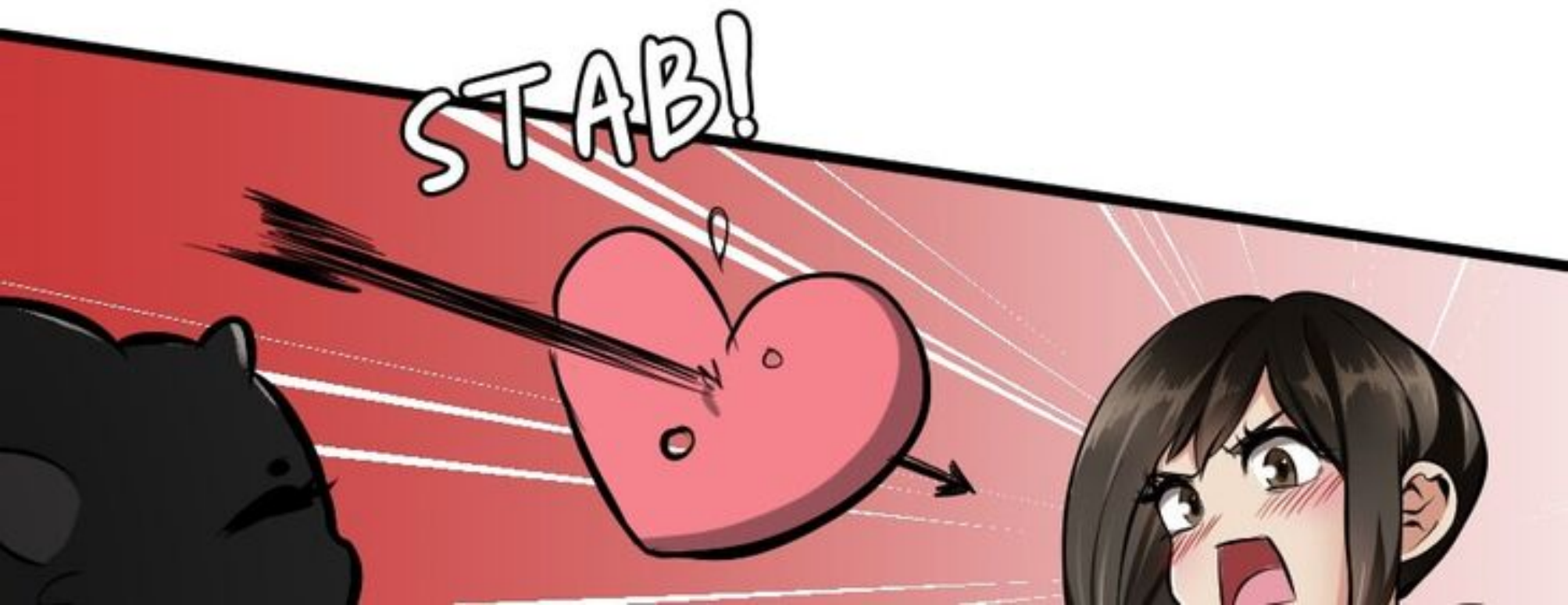
SMACK

I GET ASKED THAT A LOT, BUT YES.

GREAT TO HAVE YOU IN OUR HOME.

ARTHUR, THIS IS LILIA. SHE'S ABOUT YOUR AGE SO I HOPE THE TWO OF YOU CAN BE FRIENDS.

Kyu!


STAB!

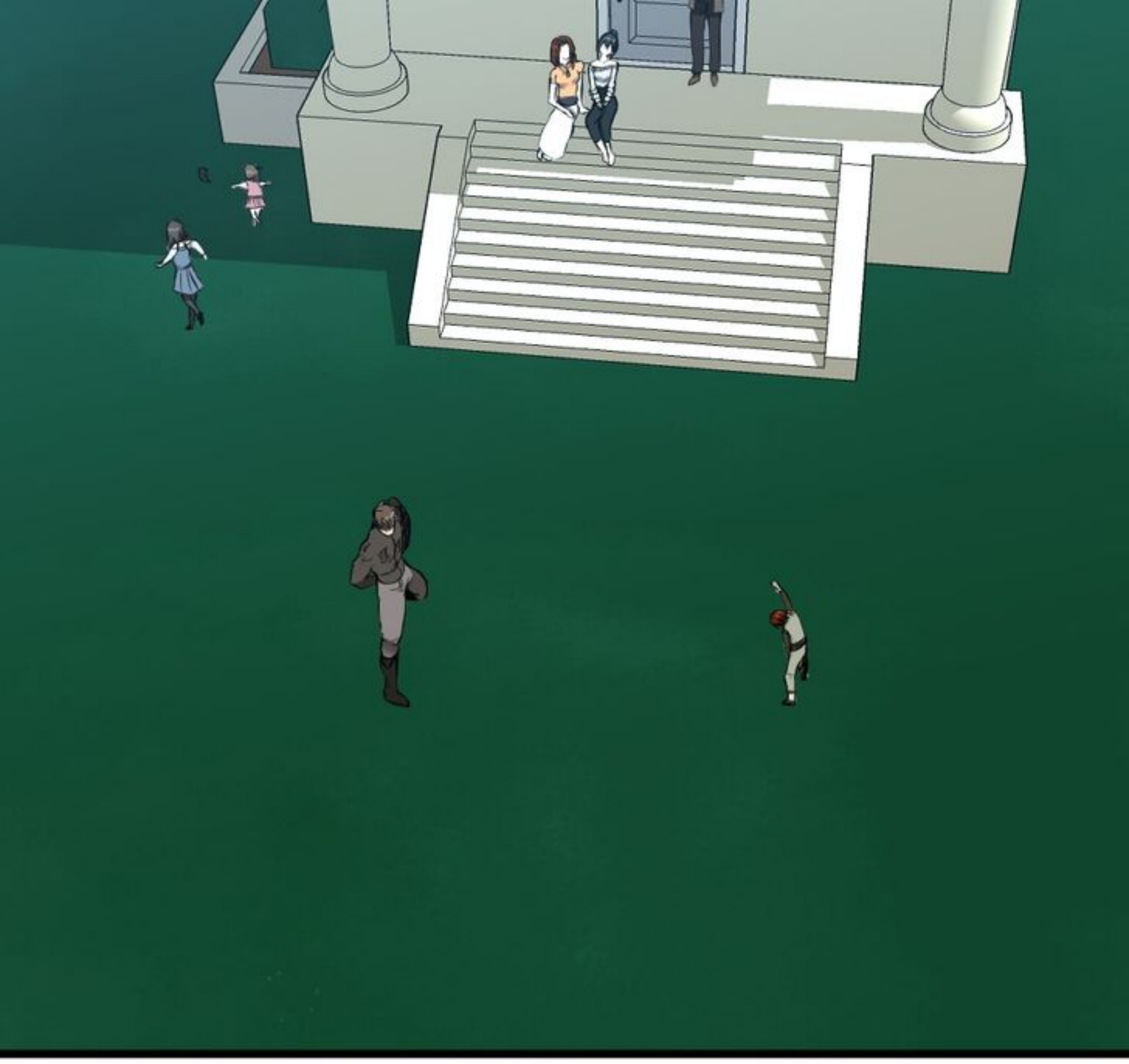
SO...
WHAT WAS
THAT ABOUT
WRECKING MY
HOUSE?

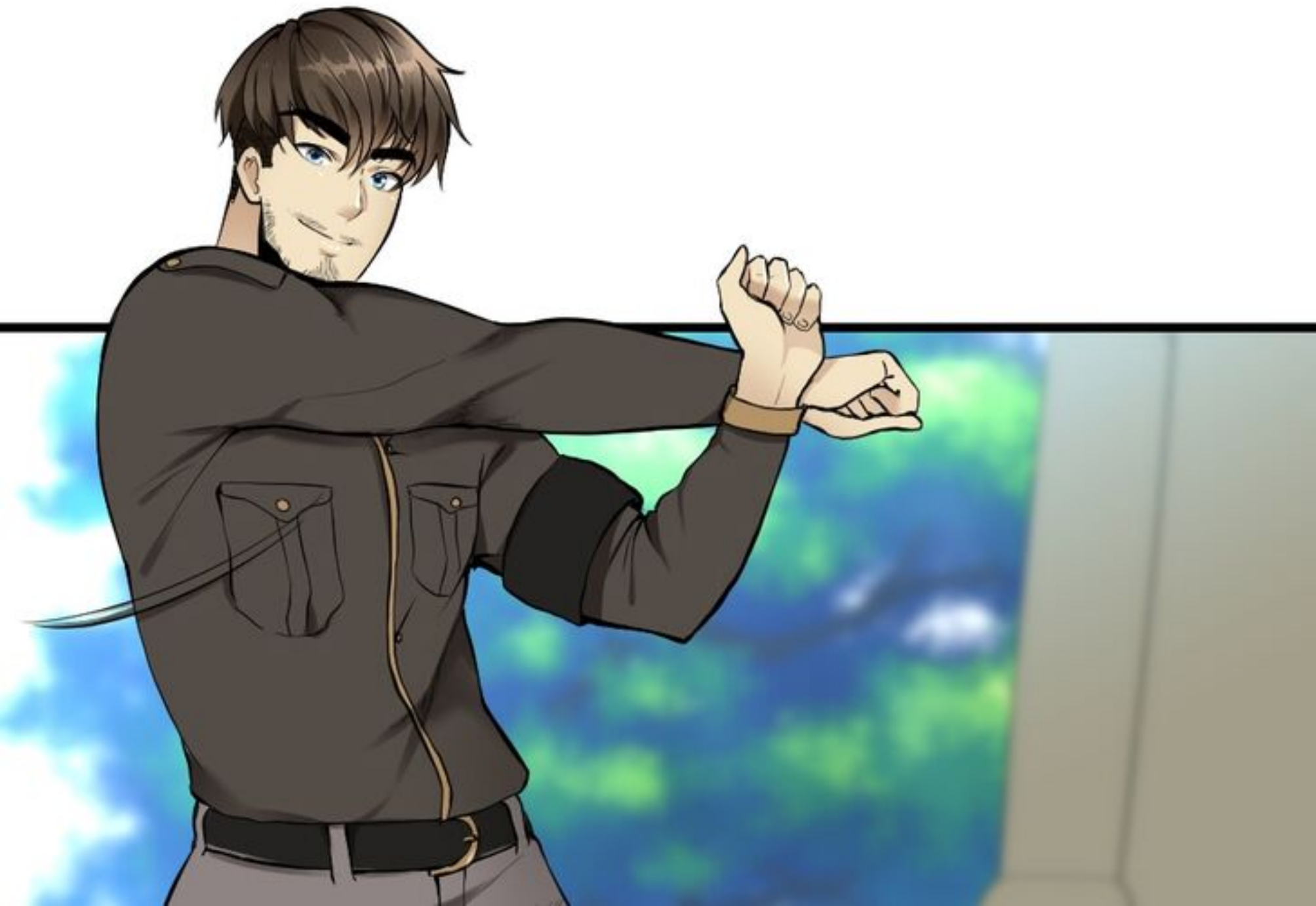
C-CAN
I TOUCH
YOUR PET?

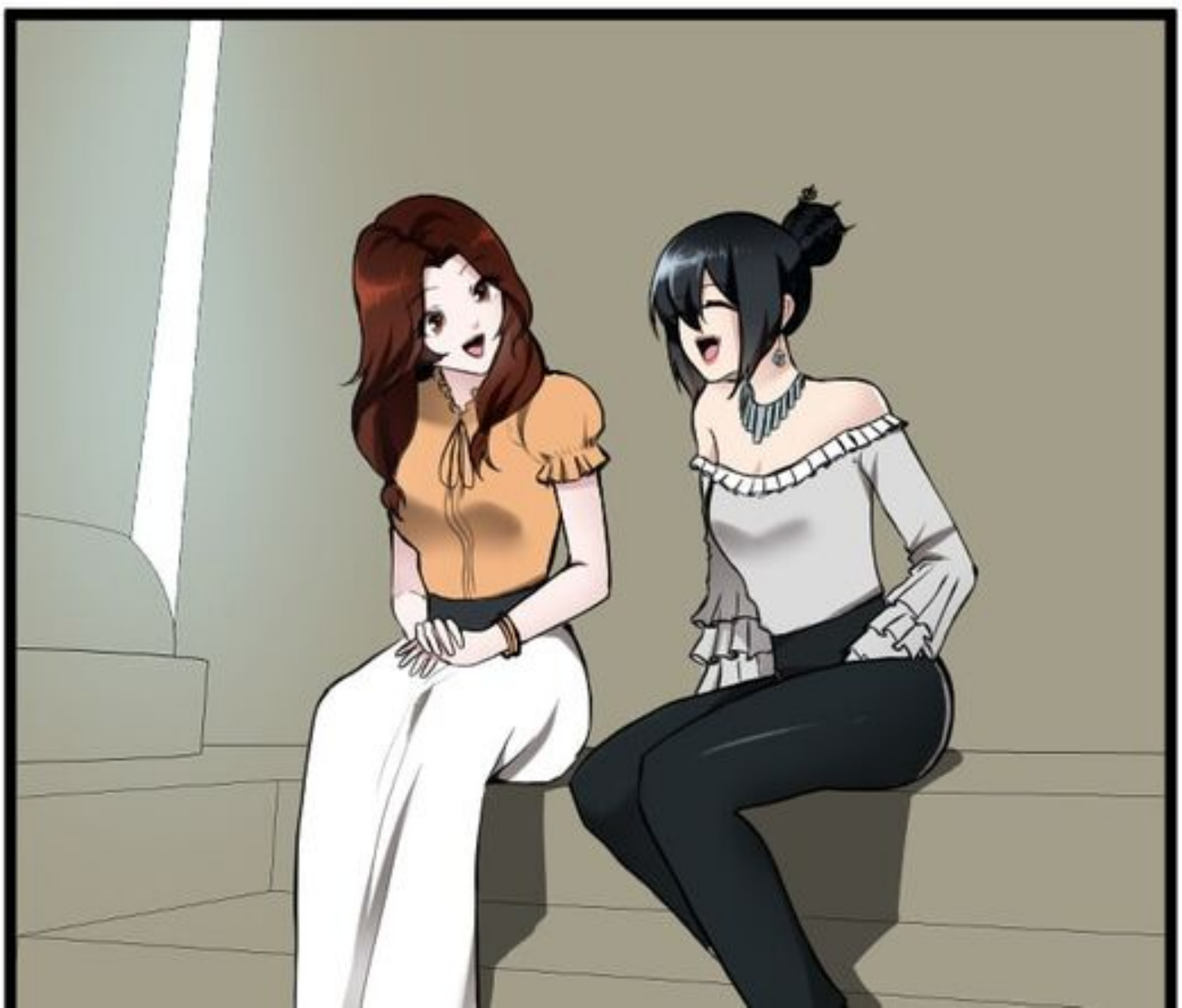
AH!
THAT'S RIGHT.
ARTHUR AND I
WERE JUST ABOUT
TO GO OUT BACK
FOR SOME
SPARRING!

OH...
SPARRING--
WAIT,
SPARRING?!

THEY REALLY ARE SPARRING...



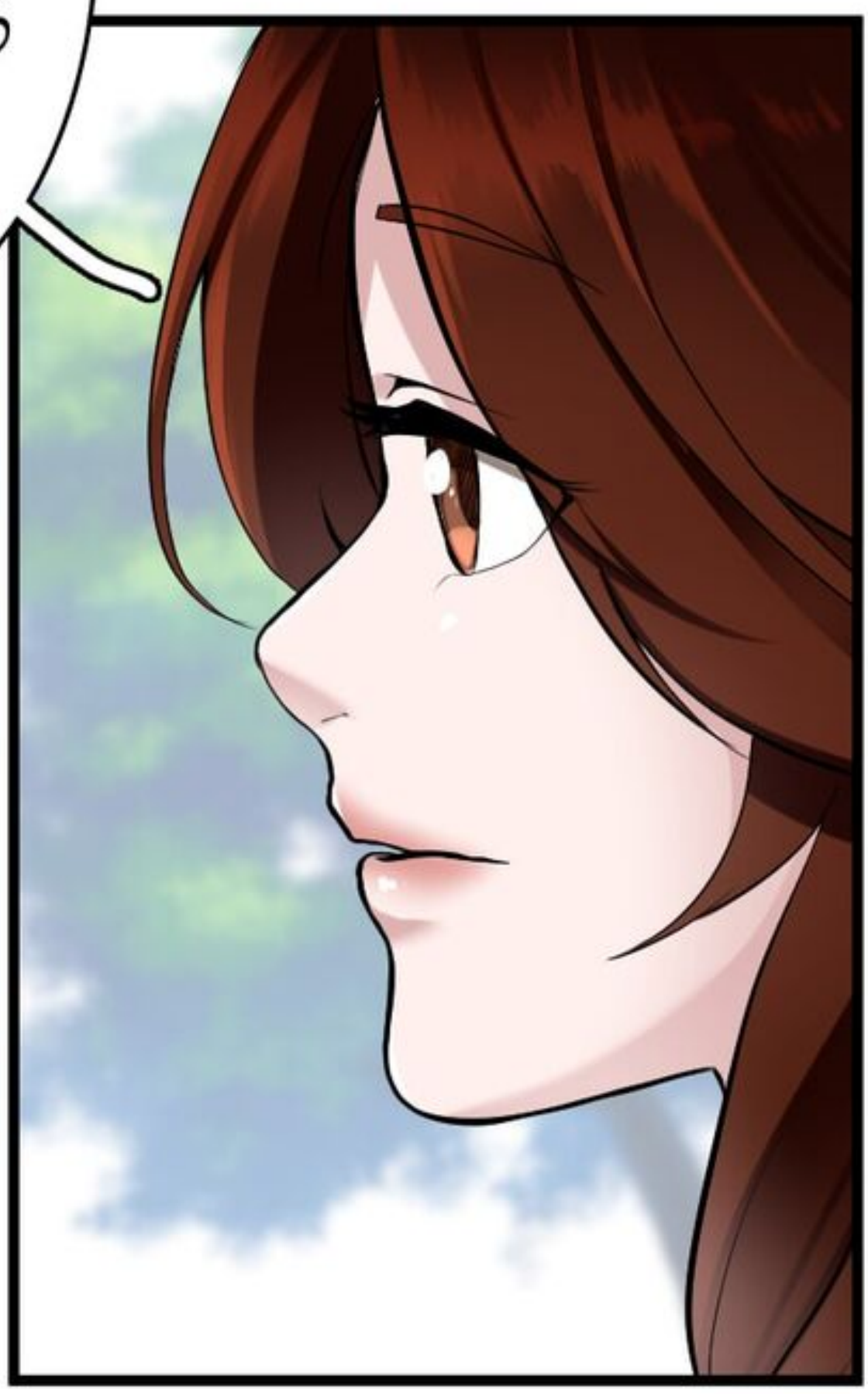




ALICE.
YOUR HUSBAND CAN'T BE SERIOUS ABOUT ARTHUR BEING A LIGHT RED CORE MAGE, RIGHT?

SIT DOWN, DEAR.

I WAS SUPRISED AS WELL BUT ARTHUR HAS ALWAYS BEEN A FAST LEARNER, AND HE HAS NO REASON TO LIE.



SO, I'M JUST SUPPOSED TO BELIEVE THAT AN EIGHT-YEAR-OLD HAS NOT ONLY AWAKENED BUT HAS PROGRESSED THREE STAGES?

EVEN THOSE SNOBBY GENIUS BRATS ADMITTED INTO XYRUS ACADEMY ARE BARELY AT THE DARK RED STAGE, AND THEY'RE ELEVEN OR TWELVE!

I GUESS IT'D BE BEST NOT TO TELL HIM THAT I'M ONLY AT LIGHT RED BECAUSE I COULDN'T TRAIN MY CORE WHILE ASSIMILATING WITH SYLVIA'S BEAST WILL.

SHFF

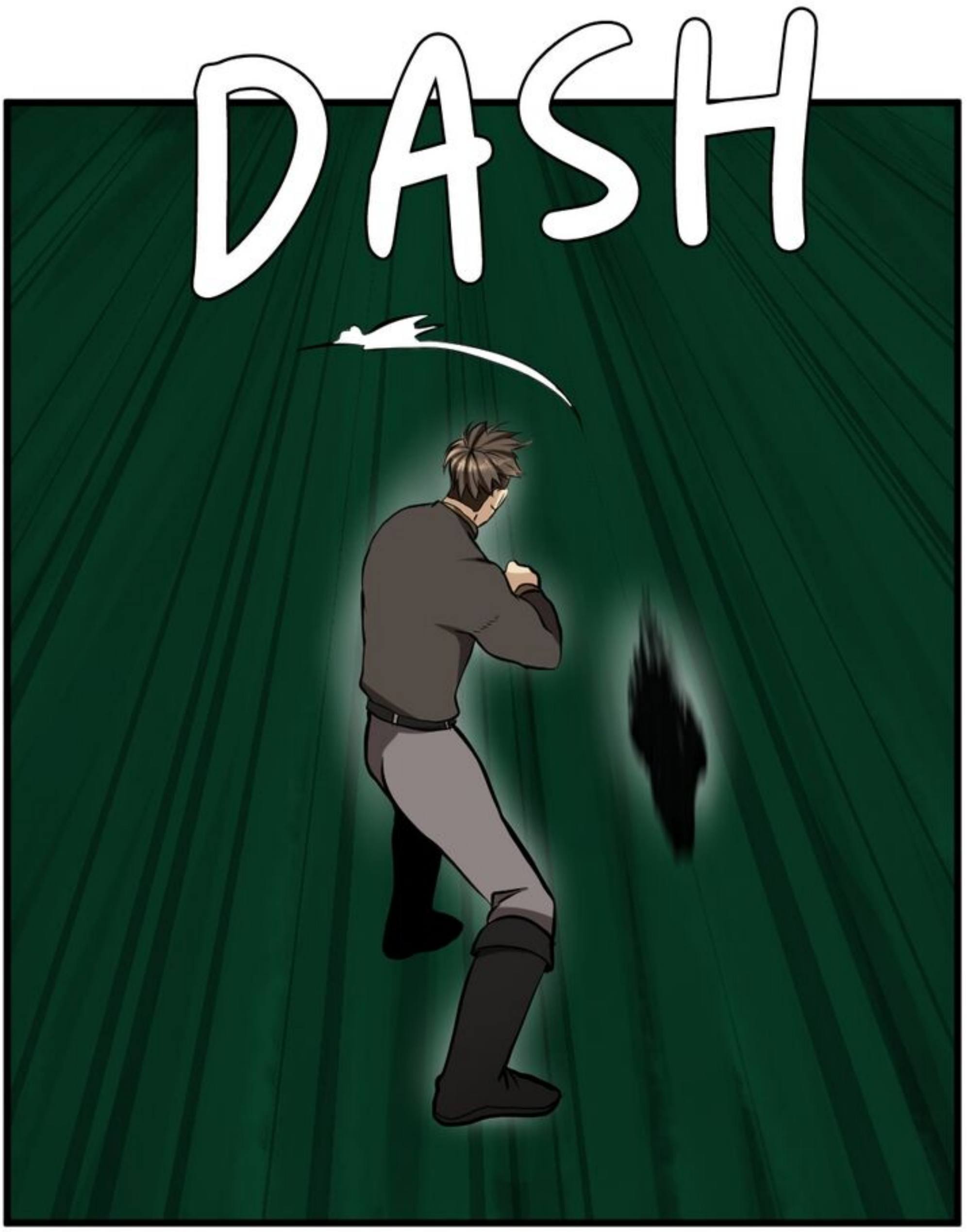
I HOPE YOU'RE READY. YOUR FATHER ISN'T THE SAME MAN HE WAS BACK THEN.

CLENCH

NEITHER AM I.

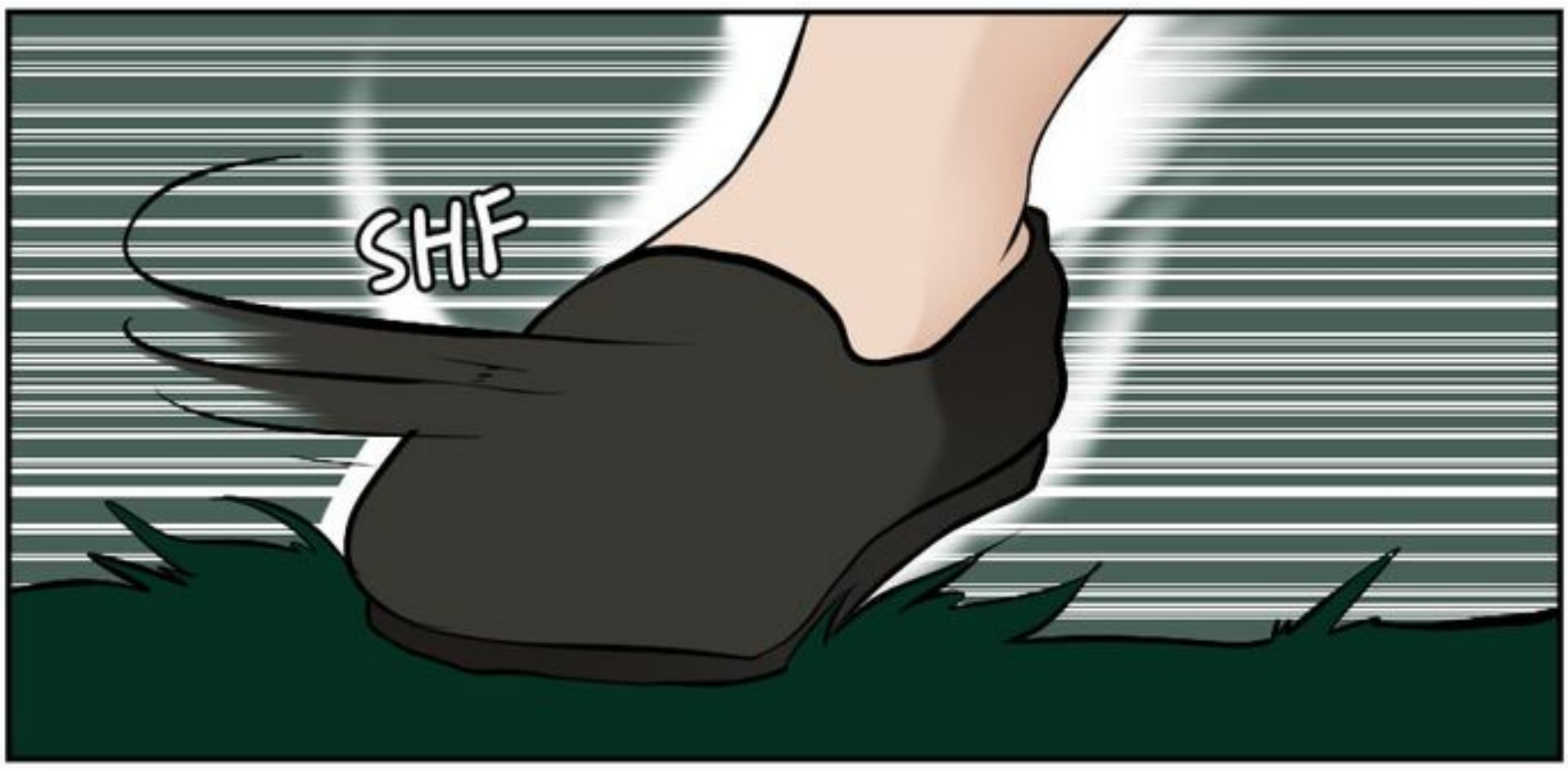
FSS

SSH


DASH

THUMP!

YOU'RE GOING TO HAVE TO TRY HARDER THAN--
HWACK


SHF

FWOOOM

GRAB

WHIP

GRAB!

TP

SWOOOSH!

TAP!

TAK
TAK
TAK

SO...
WHAT DO YOU THINK?

NOT BAD,
NOT BAD.

I'LL ADMIT YOU CAUGHT ME OFF GUARD.

BUT

YOUR OLD MAN IS GOING TO GET SERIOUS NOW.

CRACK!

A LITTLE TRICK I LEARNED AFTER I BROKE THROUGH INTO THE DARK ORANGE STAGE. DON'T SAY I DIDN'T WARN YOU.

FWOOM

THE BEGINNING AFTER THE END

STORY BY
TURTLEME

ART BY
FUYUKI23

PRESENTED BY
TAPAS MEDIA

QUALITY CONTROL BY
KISAI ENTERTAINMENT

EDITORS
GABRIELLE LUU & YOSSY

ASSISTANTS
COLORING/PLOWPLO
3D BACKGROUND/HAMUTAQ

MAGES, STARTING FROM THEIR AWAKENING, HAVE ALWAYS HAD ***AFFINITIES***, OR STRENGTHS, IN TERMS OF WHAT ELEMENT THEY CAN BEST CONTROL. PARENTS SEEK OUT PROFESSIONALS FOR EXPENSIVE TESTING ON THEIR CHILD SO THAT THEY CAN LEARN EARLY ON WHAT ROUTE TO PUSH THEIR NEWBORN MAGE TOWARDS.

IN THIS WORLD, CONJURERS HAVE THE INNATE ADVANTAGE OF BEING ABLE TO MANIFEST AND

MANIPULATE THE ELEMENT OF THEIR AFFINITY.

FOR AUGMENTERS, THEIR AFFINITY OF ELEMENTS ARE MUCH MORE SUBTLE, AND ACTUAL MANIFESTATION OF THE ELEMENTS COME ONLY AFTER THE AUGMENTER CROSSES A CERTAIN THRESHOLD.

FOR MY FATHER, WHO HAD BEEN FIGHTING AND TRAINING HARD SINCE AN EARLY AGE BUT HAD NO FORMAL TRAINING, IT TOOK HIM UNTIL THE ORANGE CORE STAGE TO BE ABLE TO TURN HIS EXPLOSIVE MANA USAGE INTO ACTUAL FIRE.

FROM THE WORLD I HAD COME FROM, ELEMENTS WEREN'T DESTINED FROM BIRTH, BUT A PATH THAT ONE TOOK WILLINGLY.

TALENT WAS A LARGE PART OF IT, BUT SINCE NO ONE WAS RESTRICTED TO JUST ONE AFFINITY, HARD WORK ALSO PLAYED A SIGNIFICANT ROLE.

FOR ME,
WHO HAD SO MANY
ADVANTAGES SINCE
COMING TO THIS WORLD,
ALL OF IT CULMINATED
INTO THIS...

I LEARNED A TRICK
OR TWO AS WELL.

CRACKLE

CRACKLE

CRACKLE!

CRACKLE!

CRACKLE!

TRY NOT TO
BE TOO
SURPRISED.

KEEP UP WITH US CREATORS ON INSTAGRAM!

@turtleme93

@fuyuki23

NEXT TIME ON
THE BEGINNING AFTER
THE END...

BAAAM!

AS EXPECTED OF MY FATHER!
HIS PUNCHES ARE GETTING SHARPER AND HE'S LEVERAGING HIS LONGER REACH SO I CAN'T GET CLOSE.

TO BE CONTINUED...